The amendments were put to vote and carried.

Mr. James Fletcher : I move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I second it.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

The Bill was passed.

The Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Bill.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Bill.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: I second it.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTERESTS.

Compulsory Primary Education.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Sir, I beg to move the following resolution :

"This Council recommends to Government that early steps be taken to introduce compulsory primary education in the State."

Sir, it is the practice here and elsewhere when such resolutions are moved, for the member concerned to seek the aid of figures, statistics. It cannot be said that that is a useless practice. But, educated members as we are, and knowing the condition of education in Travancore as we do, I do not think statstics are needed for bringing in a resolution like the present one. Comparatively, the percentage of literacy in Travancore is not low ; it is about 30 per cent. while, in British India it is only about 10 per cent. This high percentage has been achieved on account of the wise and generous policy of the Travancore Government in giving free primary education. Sir, when that step was taken by Government, our educationists gave us the definite assurance that we will be able to achieve complete literacy in a few years. We are disappointed. We have not been able to reach that Utopian ideal.

Hence it is that I have found it necessary that such a resolution as this should be moved and that, with the hearty co-operation of those interested in this problem and interested in welfare of the country, the matter might be taken up.

Sir, when I move such a resolution as this, I do realise the financial difficulty underlying such a problem, when it is to be worked. We have already found that we have only a revenue of about Rs 263 lakhs for the next year. The able Financial Secretary in his instructive and interesting and, from a literary point of

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